



October 2004

Proposed Rule Revision

Water Use Efficiency

Chapter 246-290 WAC

Systems affected

All Group A community water systems and some non-community water systems

Timelines and requirements

Municipal Water Supply – Water Efficiency Requirements Act (Municipal Water Law) rule adoption is scheduled for December 2005.

Purpose of rule change

The law is the result of a multi-year effort to reform the state's water laws. The new requirements will ensure efficient use of drinking water supplies while maintaining water system financial viability, improve affordability of supplies, and enhance system reliability. Utilities will have more certainty in their water rights while the rule will establish reasonable and achievable water use efficiency requirements.

Public health benefit

Making more efficient use of municipal water will benefit all Washington State residents. Monitoring the amount of water produced and used can help identify leaks and needed repairs. Leaks are a major problem – and a special concern to DOH – because of the possibility of bacteria or other contaminants getting into water and possibly causing illness.

Key issues of public interest

DOH has formed a subcommittee of our Water Supply Advisory Committee (WSAC) to deliver a report to the Department of Health by February 2005. The report will recommend options for a sound and achievable rule.

Rule development timeline

A CR-101 was filed on March 1, 2004 as WSR# 04-06-044. You can view this document on the web at:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/wac/index.cfm?fuseaction=title&title=246>

How to get involved

For information about the subcommittee, or to submit comments about the rule contact your Water Use Efficiency Subcommittee Representative at:

http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/municipal_water/water_use_efficiency_rule.htm

**How to get
involved
(cont.)**

Send written comments to:
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Send email comments to:
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Fax comments to:
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**For more
information**

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You can also visit our website at:
[http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/Our Main Pages/regula.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/Our_Main_Pages/regula.htm)